

If the instructions include completion notification, and when the print job is complete, then printing device 120 transfers a message to wireless transmitter 130 for transmission to wireless receiver 131 over wireless link 132. The message identifies wireless receiver 132 and indicates that the print job is complete.

5 FIGS. 1-6 and the above description depict a specific example of a printing system in accord with the present invention. Those skilled in the art will appreciate that some conventional aspects of the printing system have been simplified or omitted for clarity. Those skilled in the art will appreciate that the features described above could be combined in various ways to form multiple variations of the invention. Those skilled in the art will also appreciate variations of the printing system that fall within the scope of the invention. As a result, the invention is not limited to the specific example described above, but only by the following claims and their equivalents.

What is claimed is:

1. A printing system product comprising:

initiating software configured to direct an initiating device to receive a print request including a wireless notification request, and in response, to transfer a corresponding print job with wireless notification instructions to a printing device wherein the wireless notification instructions are configured to direct the printing device to transfer print job status over a wireless link to a wireless receiver that is different from the initiating device; and

a processor-readable storage media that stores the initiating software.

2. The printing system product of claim 1 wherein the initiating software is configured to direct the initiating device to collect an identification of the wireless receiver.

3. The printing system product of claim 1 wherein the initiating software is configured to direct the initiating device to collect a selection to either include or exclude print job completion in the print job status.

4. The printing system product of claim 1 wherein the initiating software is configured to direct the initiating device to collect a selection to either include or exclude print job problems in the print job status.

5. A printing system product comprising:

control software configured to direct a printing device to receive a print job with wireless notification instructions, and in response, to direct the printing device to perform the print job and transfer print job status over a wireless link to a wireless receiver that is different from an initiating device that transferred the print job; and a processor-readable storage media that stores the control software.

6. The printing system product of claim 5 wherein, in response to print job completion, the control software is configured to direct the printing device to transfer the print job status indicating the print job completion over the wireless link to the wireless receiver.

7. The printing system product of claim 6 wherein the control software is configured to direct the printing device to transfer the print job status indicating the print job completion over the wireless link to the wireless receiver only if the wireless notification instructions include the print job completion in the print job status.

8. The printing system product of claim 5 wherein, in response to a print job problem, the control software is configured to direct the printing device to transfer the print job status indicating the print job problem over the wireless link to the wireless receiver.

9. The printing system product of claim 8 wherein the control software is configured to direct the printing device to transfer the print job status indicating the print job problem over the wireless link to the wireless receiver only if the wireless notification instructions include the print job problem in the print job status.

10. The printing system product of claim 5 wherein the control software is configured to direct the printing device to transfer the print job status over the wireless link to the wireless receiver by transferring a message to a wireless transmitter wherein the message indicates the print job status and identifies the wireless receiver.

11. A method of operating a printing system, the method comprising:

receiving a print job with wireless notification instructions;

performing the print job in response to receiving the print job; and

in response to receiving the print job, transferring print job status over a

wireless link to a wireless receiver that is different from an initiating device that transferred the print job.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein transferring the print job status over the wireless link to the wireless receiver comprises, in response to print job completion,

transferring the print job status indicating the print job completion over the wireless link to the wireless receiver.

13. The method of claim 12 wherein transferring the print job status indicating the print job completion over the wireless link to the wireless receiver comprises

transferring the print job status indicating the print job completion over the wireless link to the wireless receiver only if the wireless notification instructions include the print job completion in the print job status.

14. The method of claim 11 wherein transferring the print job status over the wireless link to the wireless receiver comprises, in response to a print job problem,

transferring the print job status indicating the print job problem over the wireless link to the wireless receiver.

15. The method of claim 14 wherein transferring the print job status indicating the print job problem over the wireless link to the wireless receiver comprises transferring the print job status indicating the print job problem over the wireless link to the wireless receiver only if the wireless notification instructions include the print job problem in the print job status.

16. The method of claim 11 wherein transferring the print job status over the wireless link to the wireless receiver comprises transferring a message from a printing device to a wireless transmitter wherein the message indicates the print job status and identifies the wireless receiver.

17. The method of claim 11 further comprising:

receiving a print request including a wireless notification request that includes an identification of the wireless receiver; and

in response to receiving the print request, transferring the print job with the wireless notification instructions from the initiating device to the printing device.

18. The method of claim 17 wherein receiving the print request including the wireless notification request comprises collecting an identification of the wireless receiver and a selection to either include or exclude print job problems in the print job status.

19. The method of claim 11 wherein transferring the print job status over the wireless link to the wireless receiver comprises transferring an instant message indicating the print job status over the wireless link to a wireless personal digital assistant.

20. The method of claim 11 wherein transferring the print job status over the wireless link to the wireless receiver comprises transferring an instant message indicating the print job status over the wireless link to a wireless mobile telephone.